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*History of Proprietary Government in Pennsylvania.* By WILLIAM R. SHEPHERD, Ph. D. Columbia University Studies in History, Economics and Public Law. Vol. VI. Pp. 601. Price, \$4.50. New York: The Macmillan Co., 1896.

After the research given almost exclusively to our federal constitutional development, attention is now being called to that of the colonies and states. This tendency toward a new direction of American political and historical studies must indeed be welcome to all who desire to deepen the existing well of our information in this field. For this reason alone, therefore, the "History of Proprietary Government in Pennsylvania" is deserving of attention. The work is divided into two parts: I., The Land; II., The Government of the Province. Recognition is thus given to a factor in our political development which has been but too often overlooked, the powerful influence exerted on the political and administrative organization of the various colonies by the nature and distribution of the land-holdings. In this connection Dr. Shepherd treats the early land-grants, the organization of the proprietary land-office, the rights and prerogatives of the proprietors in respect to land, the transfer of such rights to the state by the divestment act of 1779, boundary disputes with neighboring colonies and like matters, with some detail. The main interest of the essay, however, centres in the second part, where the author sketches briefly Penn's original ideas of government, his humanitarianism and his unselfish and determined espousal of democratic ideals. Penn insisted that the people must rule and wished "to leave to himself and successors no power of doing mischief, that the will of one man may not hinder the good of a whole country." Considerable space is devoted to the dissensions between the settlers and the proprietor, the mistakes of the latter and the exacting and arbitrary demands of the colonists. A more complete picture would perhaps be presented were the needs and claims of the settlers treated somewhat more fully with reference to their origin and growth. Considered, however, as an impartial history of this period from the governmental or proprietary side, the work may be regarded as a valuable addition to the literature of the subject.

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*International Bimetallism.* By FRANCIS A. WALKER. Pp. 297. Price, \$1.25. New York: Henry Holt & Co., 1896.

As the subject of international bimetalism promises to be prominent in the discussions of the coming Congress, it is worth while